

# FACT SHEET



## Ogallala Ground Water Contamination Site Ogallala, Nebraska

May 1999

### INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has signed the Record of Decision (ROD) for Operable Unit #1 (OU1) of the Ogallala Ground Water Contamination Site, Ogallala, Nebraska. The ROD for OU1 describes the remedy selected by EPA to address several separate areas of ground water contamination in the city of Ogallala.

### BACKGROUND

In the Spring of 1998, EPA announced its preferred alternative for addressing ground water contamination at the site. The public was asked to provide comments on EPA's preferred alternative. During the public comment period, EPA received numerous comments. Many of the commentors expressed concern about EPA's proposal to pump the contaminated ground water and treat it in an air stripper, the costs associated with that action, and why it was necessary since the city had installed a new well field. Commentors also indicated that

#### Availability Session Announcement

#### EPA will hold an informal meeting:

Tuesday, June 1, 1999  
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Ogallala City Hall  
411 E. 2nd Street  
Ogallala, Nebraska

EPA staff will be available to answer your questions about the site. You may attend the meeting at your convenience between

in the northeastern part of the site. This contamination will be addressed in a separate ROD. The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), with support from EPA, is conducting a study at this area to determine if reductive dechlorination will successfully clean up PCE. If the study shows that it does, that information could be used to accelerate the cleanup of the PCE contamination in the western part of the site.

## **THE OU1 RECORD OF DECISION**

The ROD calls for the following activities:

- ☐ Implement institutional controls in the form of a city of Ogallala ordinance and deed notices/restrictions on selected property. This will control the use of the ground water for human consumption in areas where contamination is above the public drinking water standards, also known as maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).
- ☐ Identify the locations of the private, irrigation, monitoring, and industrial wells that are present in Ogallala. This information will be used to determine the sampling locations to be included in the ground water monitoring program.
- ☐ Sample and monitor the ground water to identify any additional source areas and determine the extent of the ground water contamination.
- ☐ Restore the aquifer through natural attenuation.
- ☐ Continue operation of the American Shizuki Corporation (ASC)/TRW pump and treat system until EPA and NDEQ determine that this response action is complete.
- ☐ Provide an alternate source of water for domestic use to any residences that currently rely on private wells if they are impacted by the presence of contamination from the site.

## **NEXT STEPS**

EPA will meet with the parties responsible for the contamination in the next few months to discuss implementation of the remedy.

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